

# Wisconsin Ethics Commission

## *Compliance and review*

### Statements of Economic Interests and Other Reports

#### **Statements of Economic Interests**

##### 100% COMPLIANCE

The Wisconsin Ethics Commission experiences virtually 100% compliance with the law requiring state public officials, candidates, and nominees for state public office to file Statements of Economic Interests on a yearly basis. Approximately 2,400 state officials file a statement each year.

##### INTERNAL AUDITS

The Board's staff inspects Statements of Economic Interests filed to assure that each Statement is, on its face, complete and contains no internal inconsistencies.

##### PUBLIC EXAMINATION

Statements filed by state public officials, candidates, and nominees for state public office, and financial reports made by Wisconsin's congressional delegation are open for public inspection at the Board's office. During the past several years the public examined each year an average of 500 Statements of Economic Interests filed with the Board. As provided by statute the Wisconsin Ethics Commission notifies each official, candidate, or nominee of the identity of anyone who examined his or her Statement of Economic Interests.

##### SENATE'S SCRUTINY OF STATEMENTS FILED BY GOVERNOR'S NOMINEES

In those instances for which the *Statutes* require the Senate's consent to an appointment, a nominee must file a Statement of Economic Interests within 3 weeks of the Governor's sending the nomination to the Senate. The Commission forwards copies of nominees' Statements for about 100 gubernatorial nominations annually to members of the Senate committees to which the nominations are referred for consideration.

#### **Other Reports**

##### ONLINE INDEX

The Board has made available an online index by which one can ascertain the interests reported for:

- Judges: by county
- Legislators: by legislative house or committee
- Executives: by office or agency.

The index provides a list of state public officials both alphabetically and by agency. The index is viewable at <http://ethics.state.wi.us/eofr/Pages/>

## INVESTMENT BOARD

Members and staff of the Investment Board not only file an annual Statement of Economic Interests with the Ethics Commission, but also submit reports of their economic transactions each quarter. Unlike other reports, the financial reports filed by members and employees of the Investment Board are not open to public inspection.

## STATE CONTRACTS

The Wisconsin Ethics Commission maintains an index to written notices submitted by state officials who have entered into contracts or leases involving payments of more than \$3,000 in state funds within a 12-month period.

## CONGRESSIONAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Federal law requires United States Senators and Representatives and candidates for those offices to report publicly certain of their economic interests. The Wisconsin Ethics Commission maintains copies of these financial reports filed by Wisconsin's congressional delegation.